

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Masahide NAKAYA

GAU:

SERIAL NO:NEW APPLICATION

EXAMINER:

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS CAPABLE OF SHORTENING START UP TIME OF FIXING
DEVICE

REQUEST FOR PRIORITY

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Full benefit of the filing date of U.S. Application Serial Number 10/118,140, filed April 9, 2002, is claimed pursuant to the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §120.

Full benefit of the filing date(s) of U.S. Provisional Application(s) is claimed pursuant to the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §119(e): Application No. Date Filed

Applicants claim any right to priority from any earlier filed applications to which they may be entitled pursuant to the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §119, as noted below.

In the matter of the above-identified application for patent, notice is hereby given that the applicants claim as priority:

| <u>COUNTRY</u> | <u>APPLICATION NUMBER</u> | <u>MONTH/DAY/YEAR</u> |
|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Japan | 2001-109882 | April 9, 2001 |

Certified copies of the corresponding Convention Application(s)

are submitted herewith.

will be submitted prior to payment of the Final Fee

were filed in prior application Serial No. 10/118,140 filed April 9, 2002.

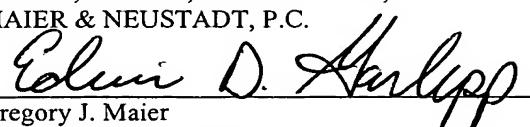
were submitted to the International Bureau in PCT Application Number
Receipt of the certified copies by the International Bureau in a timely manner under PCT Rule 17.1(a) has been acknowledged as evidenced by the attached PCT/IB/304.

(A) Application Serial No.(s) were filed in prior application Serial No. filed ; and

(B) Application Serial No.(s)
 are submitted herewith
 will be submitted prior to payment of the Final Fee

Respectfully Submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier

Registration No. 25,599

Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000
Fax. (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 05/03)

Edwin D. Garlepp
Registration No. 45,330